

A NEW GENUS OF VELLOZIACEAE

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Since 1976 (Smith & Ayensu, A Revision of American Velloziaceae, Smithsonian Contributions to Botany Number 30. 1976) I have revised the taxonomy for which I was responsible and in so doing have revised the two African genera distinguishing both from Vellozia. Vellozia has been used to cover them when Barbacenia was the only other genus recognized. Actually the African genera belong to the subfamily Barbacenioideae which is distinguished by its long narrow stigmas in contrast to the Vellocioideae with broad spreading ones.

The two African genera are Xerophyta (Juss., Gen. 50. 1789) which has a valid name and what was called Talbotia by Balfour but given no description. This was pointed out by J. D. Hooker in publishing its only species as Vellozia elegans. It is now too late to validate it as the name has been published for a genus of Acanthaceae by S. Moore (Cat. Pl. Talbot S. Nigeria 80. 1913). Accordingly I am giving it a new name and valid publication as follows:

TALBOTOPSIS Lyman B. Smith, gen. nov. Velloziaceae.
Ovario 3-quetro glaberrimo, perianthii albi foliolis subaequalibus oblongis obtusis demum excrescentibus viridibus, staminibus 6 subsessilibus, antheris linearibus obtusis, stylo brevi, stigmate oblongo-cylindraceo 6-sulcato obtuso, seminibus teretibus elongatis curvis.

Type species:

TALBOTOPSIS ELEGANS (J. D. Hooker) L. B. Smith (Vellozia elegans Oliver ex J. D. Hooker, Botanical Magazine 95: pl. 5803. 1869). Caule pedali gracili erecto, foliis ensiformibus rase-mosis carinato-complicatis multinervis acuminatis apices versus cartilagineo-serrulatis, scapis 3-5-floris, pedicellis valde elongatis filiformibus. Vellozia sensu J. D. Hooker, pro parte minore haud quoad plantam typicam.

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